ATLAS
NAVY ACTION
ALL NEW...
JUNE
NAVY ACTION
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
10¢
NO. 6
DON'T MISS:
"DREADNOUGHT!"
DEDICATED TO THE SHIPS AND MEN OF OUR INVINCIBLE NAVY!
FEATURING:
"BATTLESHIP BURKE!"
U.S.N.
HEATH

NOW! Give Yourself a $168-a-Month Raise!

We'll start you in a proven money-earning spare-time business at no cost to you!

SEND FOR *FREE* BUSINESS KIT!

Here's a business for you that will be as much fun as it is profitable... and you don't have to invest one cent...ever! We've helped thousands of men succeed in this unique business...and we'd like to do it for **you**, too. Just 2 orders a day from friends, neighbors, relatives, in "off hours" earns you $168 EXTRA a month! James Kelly of Ohio took so many orders for these Nationally-Advertised shoes that he made $93.55 in just ONE evening! Fred Mapes of California regularly makes $5 to $10 every hour he devotes to his Mason Shoe business! There is no limit on what you can earn!

It's **easy** with our way of selling shoes. We set you up in a complete "shoe store" business you can run from your home. We carry the stock and ship the shoes. All you do is show the styles to your family, friends, people where you work, etc....and take orders. You have a profitable business with no rent, light bill, clerk hire or other costs to worry you. **You keep 100% of your profit!**

Here's why you'll make money!

● You offer **170** comfortable fast-selling styles...far more than a store! ● You have an amazing range of **sizes (2½ to 14)** and **widths (AAAA to EEEE)**. Even hard-to-fit people can buy from you! ● Because we carry over 200,000 pairs in stock, your customers get **exactly** what they want ...no misfits or substitutions! ● You feature exclusive Velvet-eez shoes with foamy-soft **air-cushion innersoles** that let you "walk on air." Built for supreme comfort, Mason shoes also feature built-in strong steel shanks, Air-Cushion longitudinal support, Nylon stitching. Advertised in Esquire, Good Housekeeping and on TV, they'll be available **only** from **you**—not sold in stores! ● You save your customers money, and the **time they** would waste "shopping around" shoe stores.

Take Orders For Over 170 Dress-Sport-Work Shoe Styles!

30 kinds of work shoes! A style for every trade! Special Neoprene, Cork, Cushion soles, heels... ventilated work shoes...even Safety Toe Shoes!

Smart dress, sport styles! The last word in styling! Many fine, unusual leathers. Cool Nylon Mesh styles. Moccasins, 2-tones and Cush-N-Crepe soled shoes!

70 Styles for Women! Satisfy almost every taste! Many comfort features. Low-heeled, high-heeled, casuals, service shoes, latest styles!

No wonder you'll have the biggest and best "shoe store" business in town!

MASON SHOE MFG. CO.
Desk MA605, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin
Since 1904

You'll get a Starting Kit *FREE!*

As soon as we receive the coupon below we'll send you a complete Business Outfit **FREE and postpaid!** It features the entire Mason Collection in full color; contains 10-second Air Cushion demonstrator, valuable Booklet chock full of how-to-make-money hints, special Measuring Board, advertising reprints...everything else you need to start making cash profits from the first hour! We'll also show you how to earn monthly **Bonus Checks** and win costly prizes **Free!**

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Mr. Ned Mason, Vice President
Mason Shoe Mfg. Co., Desk MA-605
Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

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JOIN THE NAVY CREW AND BE SHIPMATES IN BATTLE ADVENTURES WITH...

"BATTLESHIP" BURKE

THE COMMIES HAD THE 5TH AND 7TH MARINE REGIMENTS TRAPPED IN DECEMBER, 1950, AND THAT'S WHEN THE *LEYTE* AND ITS BROOD OF *CORSAIRS* AND *SKYRAIDERS* WERE SENT INTO THE BATTLE!

FROM THE DECK OF THEIR DESTROYER, CHIEF PETTY OFFICER "BATTLESHIP" BURKE AND HIS MATE, SEAMAN FIRST CLASS "SALTY" SMITH WATCHED THE FLATTOP RELEASE HER EAGLES INTO THE AIR...

A SIGHT LIKE THAT MAKES YOU PROUD TO BE PART OF THE NAVY, HUH, SALTY?

AYE, BATTLESHIP! IT SURE LOOKED ROUGH FOR THEM GYRENES TRAPPED IN THE MOUNTAINS, BUT NOT ANY MORE!

BURKE CPO

THERE GO THE CORSAIRS TO CARVE A HOLE IN THAT COMMIE TRAP, SO OUR GYRENES CAN COME MARCHIN' TO HUNGNAM... *AND FREEDOM!*

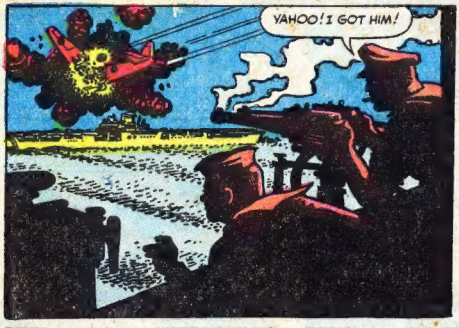
HERE COMES A COMMIE KAMIKAZE TO MAKE SURE OUR EAGLES HAVE NO NEST TO SQUAT IN WHEN THEY GET BACK!

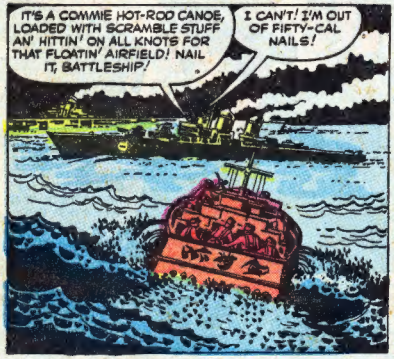
KEEP PUMPIN' THEM FIFTIES, BATTLESHIP! HE'S STILL PLOWIN' TOWARD THE FLATTOP!

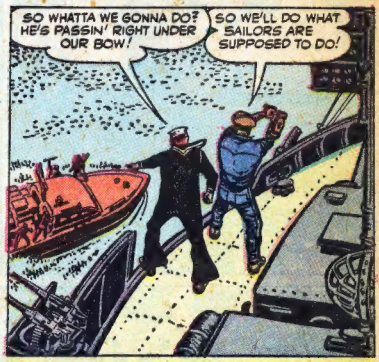
F785

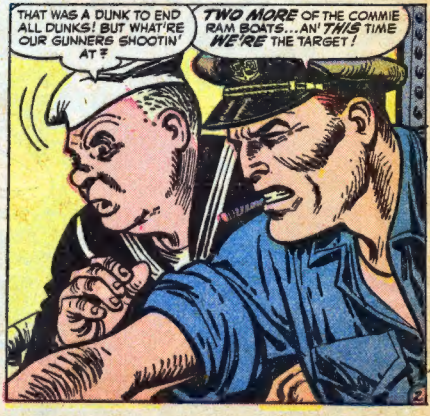
1

"BATTLESHIP" BURKE TRACKED THE *MIG* WITH HIS TWIN FIFTIES AND KEPT DEPOSITING HIS BANKROLL INTO THE JET'S TAIL, *AND HIS INVESTMENT PAID OFF WITH A BANG...*

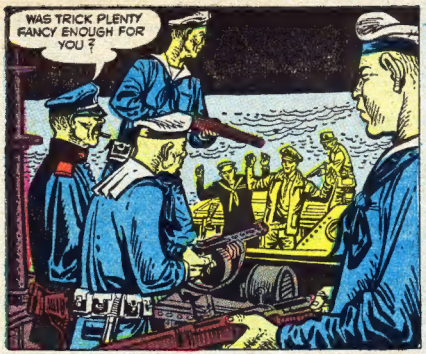



IT'S A COMMIE HOT-ROD CANOE, LOADED WITH SCRAMBLE STUFF AN' HITTIN' ON ALL KNOTS FOR THAT FLOATIN' AIRFIELD! NAIL IT, BATTLESHIP!
I CAN'T! I'M OUT OF FIFTY-CAL NAILS!



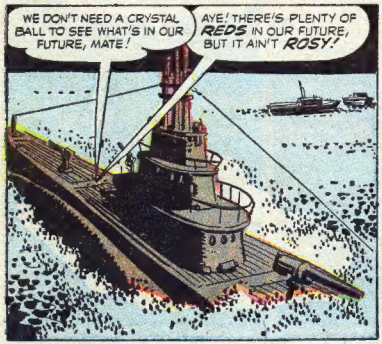

THAT WAS A DUNK TO END ALL DUNKS! BUT WHAT'RE OUR GUNNERS SHOOTIN' AT?
TWO MORE OF THE COMMIE RAM BOATS...AN' THIS TIME WE'RE THE TARGET!

OUR GUNNERS GOT ONE OF 'EM!
THAT'S CHANGED THE OTHER RED-RAMMER'S MIND ABOUT GOIN' TO VISIT HIS ANCESTORS! HE'S LEAVIN' ON THE DOUBLE!
I'D LIKE TO GET MY HANDS ON THAT RED!
WISHING WILL MAKE IT SO, CHIEF! YOU AN' SEAMAN SMITH GET INTO A POWER BOAT AND BRING THAT RED IN!
AYE, AYE, SIR!
A FEW MINUTES LATER, BATTLESHIP BURKE AND HIS MATE SALTY WERE ON THEIR WAY...
THERE HE IS, BATTLESHIP!
WE'LL GET HIM!
BURKE CPO
WE'RE GAININ' ON HIM LIKE HE WAS STANDIN' STILL!
USN
HE IS STANDIN' STILL! HIS MOTOR MUST'VE CONKED!
KEEP THE GUNS ON HIM, SALTY...MAYBE IT'S A TRICK!
NAW, HE'S HOOKED! IT'D TAKE A PRETTY FANCY TRICK TO GET HIM OUTA THIS!
US-50

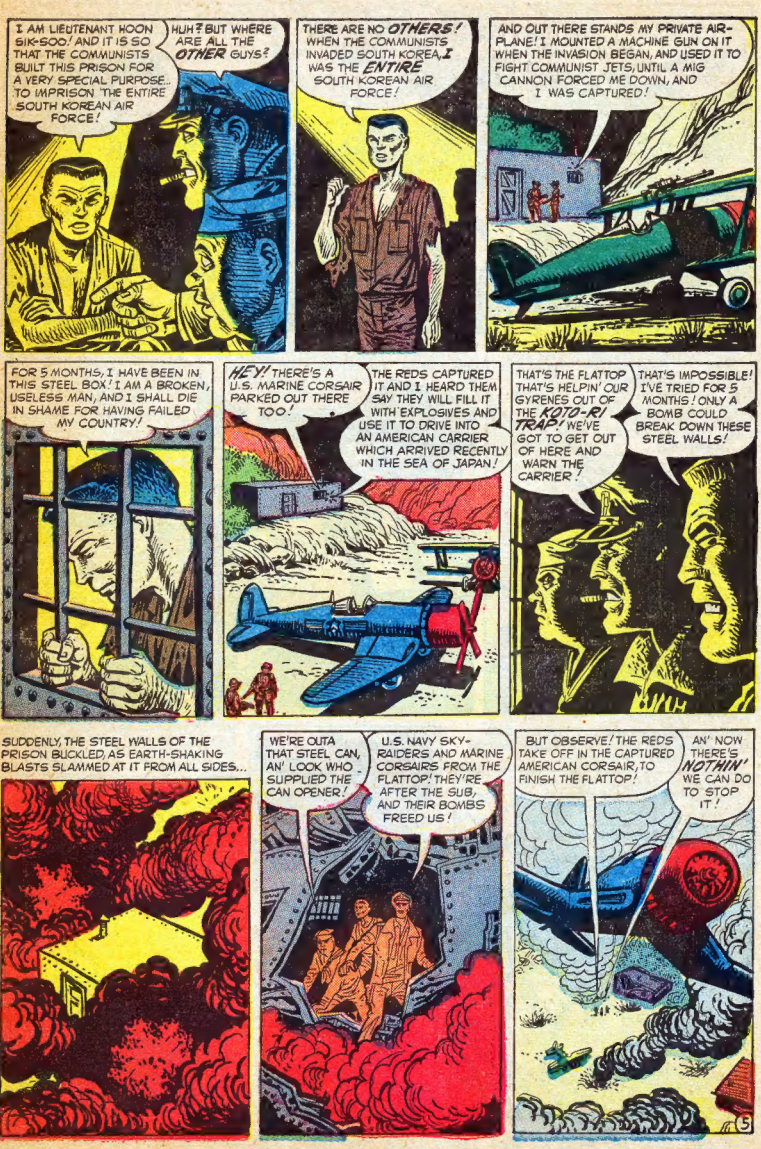


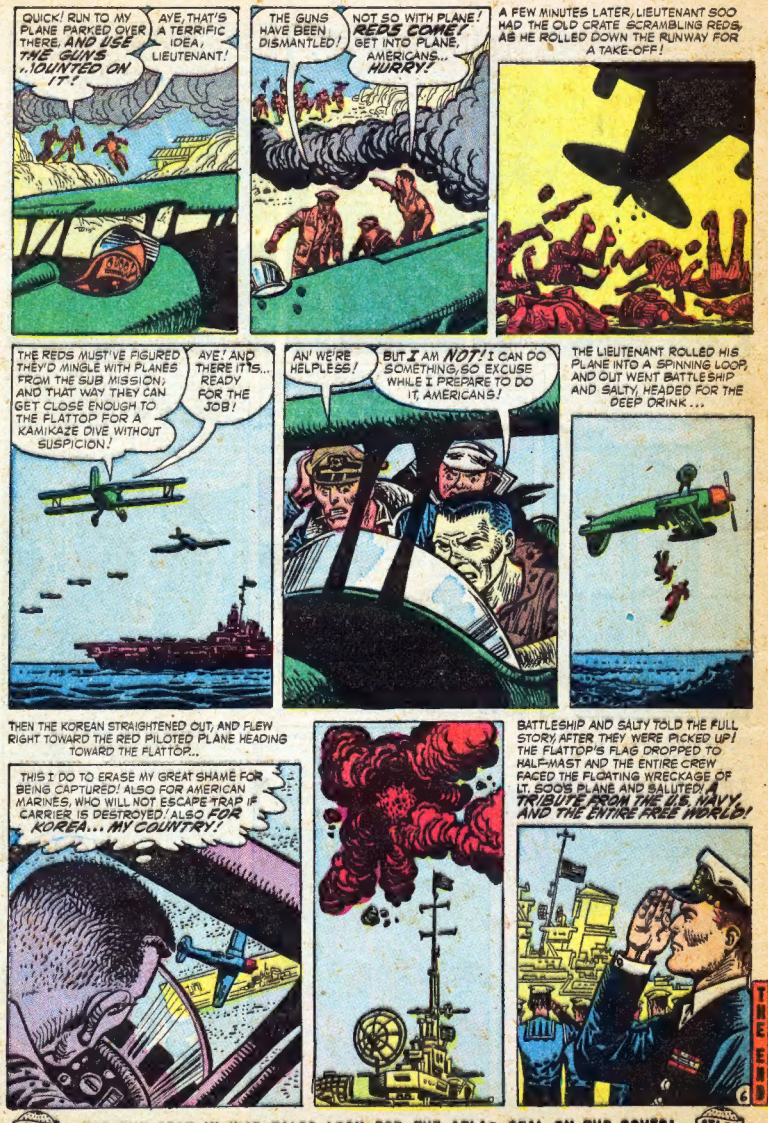
AFTER THE TWO GOBS WERE STOWED AWAY IN THE BRIG OF THE COMMIE SUB, THE SHIP HEADED NORTH...

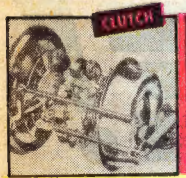
SIX HOURS LATER, THE COMMIE SUBMARINE NOSED INTO THE RED SEAPORT OF CHANO...



IT'S DARKER'N MIDNIGHT IN HERE!
THIS HOOSEGOW IS SOLID STEEL, SO IT MUSTA BEEN CUSTOM BUILT FOR SOME SPECIAL PRISONER THE REDS MADE SURE WOULDN'T ESCAPE! WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?


I AM LIEUTENANT HOON SIK-SOO! AND IT IS SO THAT THE COMMUNISTS BUILT THIS PRISON FOR A VERY SPECIAL PURPOSE.. TO IMPRISON THE ENTIRE SOUTH KOREAN AIR FORCE!
HUH? BUT WHERE ARE ALL THE OTHER GUYS?
THERE ARE NO OTHERS! WHEN THE COMMUNISTS INVADED SOUTH KOREA, I WAS THE ENTIRE SOUTH KOREAN AIR FORCE!
AND OUT THERE STANDS MY PRIVATE AIR-PLANE! I MOUNTED A MACHINE GUN ON IT WHEN THE INVASION BEGAN, AND USED IT TO FIGHT COMMUNIST JETS, UNTIL A MIG CANNON FORCED ME DOWN, AND I WAS CAPTURED!
FOR 5 MONTHS, I HAVE BEEN IN THIS STEEL BOX! I AM A BROKEN, USELESS MAN, AND I SHALL DIE IN SHAME FOR HAVING FAILED MY COUNTRY!
HEY! THERE'S A U.S. MARINE CORSAIR PARKED OUT THERE TOO!
THE REDS CAPTURED IT AND I HEARD THEM SAY THEY WILL FILL IT WITH EXPLOSIVES AND USE IT TO DRIVE INTO AN AMERICAN CARRIER WHICH ARRIVED RECENTLY IN THE SEA OF JAPAN!
THAT'S THE FLATTOP THAT'S HELPIN' OUR GYRENES OUT OF THE KOTO-RI TRAP! WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE AND WARN THE CARRIER!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! I'VE TRIED FOR 5 MONTHS! ONLY A BOMB COULD BREAK DOWN THESE STEEL WALLS!
SUDDENLY, THE STEEL WALLS OF THE PRISON BUCKLED, AS EARTH-SHAKING BLASTS SLAMMED AT IT FROM ALL SIDES...
WE'RE OUTA THAT STEEL CAN, AN' LOOK WHO SUPPLIED THE CAN OPENER!
U.S. NAVY SKY-RAIDERS AND MARINE CORSAIRS FROM THE FLATTOP! THEY'RE AFTER THE SUB, AND THEIR BOMBS FREED US!
BUT OBSERVE! THE REDS TAKE OFF IN THE CAPTURED AMERICAN CORSAIR, TO FINISH THE FLATTOP!
AN' NOW THERE'S NOTHIN' WE CAN DO TO STOP IT!
5


QUICK! RUN TO MY PLANE PARKED OVER THERE, AND USE THE GUN'S MOUNTED ON IT!
AYE, THAT'S A TERRIFIC IDEA, LIEUTENANT!
THE GUNS HAVE BEEN DISMANTLED!
NOT SO WITH PLANE! REDS COME! GET INTO PLANE, AMERICANS... HURRY!
A FEW MINUTES LATER, LIEUTENANT SOO HAD THE OLD CRATE SCRAMBLING REDS, AS HE ROLLED DOWN THE RUNWAY FOR A TAKE-OFF!
THE REDS MUST'VE FIGURED THEY'D MINGLE WITH PLANES FROM THE SUB MISSION; AND THAT WAY THEY CAN GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE FLATTOP FOR A KAMIKAZE DIVE WITHOUT SUSPICION!
AYE! AND THERE IT IS... READY FOR THE JOB!
AN' WE'RE HELPLESS!
BUT I AM NOT! I CAN DO SOMETHING, SO EXCUSE WHILE I PREPARE TO DO IT, AMERICANS!
THE LIEUTENANT ROLLED HIS PLANE INTO A SPINNING LOOP, AND OUT WENT BATTLESHIP AND SALTY, HEADED FOR THE DEEP DRINK...
THEN THE KOREAN STRAIGHTENED OUT, AND FLEW RIGHT TOWARD THE RED PILOTED PLANE HEADING TOWARD THE FLATTOP...
THIS I DO TO ERASE MY GREAT SHAME FOR BEING CAPTURED! ALSO FOR AMERICAN MARINES, WHO WILL NOT ESCAPE TRAP IF CARRIER IS DESTROYED! ALSO FOR KOREA... MY COUNTRY!
BATTLESHIP AND SALTY TOLD THE FULL STORY, AFTER THEY WERE PICKED UP! THE FLATTOP'S FLAG DROPPED TO HALF-MAST AND THE ENTIRE CREW FACED THE FLOATING WRECKAGE OF LT. SOO'S PLANE AND SALUTED! A TRIBUTE FROM THE U.S. NAVY AND THE ENTIRE FREE WORLD!
THE END
ATLAS
FOR THE BEST IN WAR TALES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER!
ATLAS



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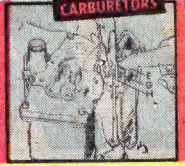

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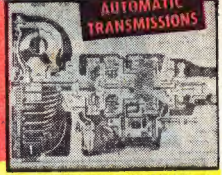

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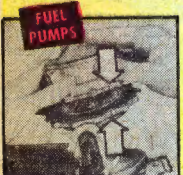
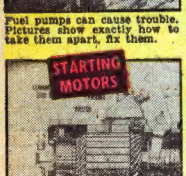
FIX ANY PART OF ANY CAR



Fuel pumps can cause trouble. Pictures show exactly how to take them apart, fix them.



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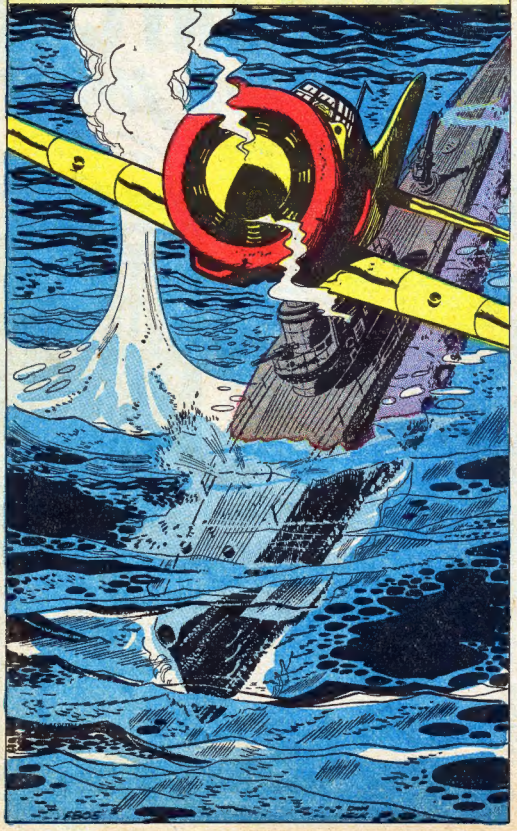
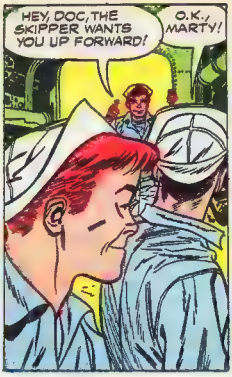
FIRE!

THE U.S. SUBMARINE "BONITA" LEFT PEARL HARBOR ON WAR PATROL OF BASHI CHANNEL, THE STRETCH OF DANGEROUS SEA BETWEEN FORMOSA AND LUZON! HER CREW WERE ALL VETERANS, EXCEPT FOR "RED" WILKINS! THIS WAS HIS FIRST CRUISE, AND HE HAD HIS FIRST TASTE OF ACTION EARLY... WHEN THE LONE JAP PLANE SPOTTED US ON THE SURFACE AND WE HAD TO CRASH DIVE...

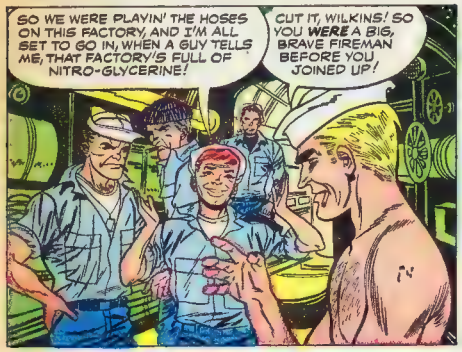


WE LEVELED OFF AT THREE HUNDRED AND COASTED! I LOOKED AT WILKINS! HIS FACE WAS WHITE AND SWEAT STREAKED DOWN HIS CHEEKS...

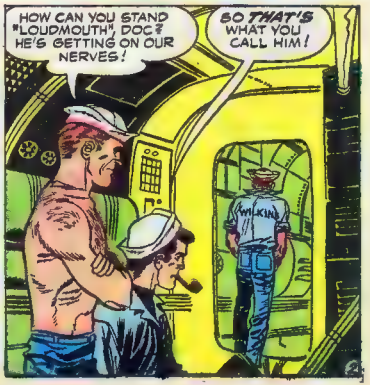


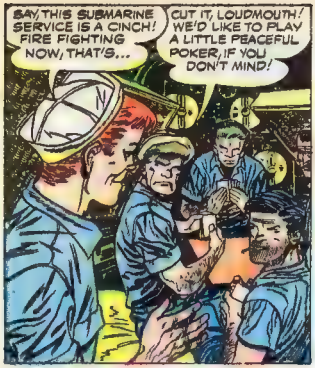
I WAS A PHARMACIST'S MATE! THE FELLOWS CALLED ME DOC! I HAD BEEN IN MY LAST YEAR OF MEDICAL COLLEGE, WHEN WAR CAME!
POOR WILKINS! HE'S SCARED, AND TALKS LOUD TO COVER IT UP! THE OTHER MEN ARE VETERANS, SO HE'S TRYING TO WIN THEIR RESPECT BY BOASTING!

WHEN I GOT BACK, WILKINS WAS STILL GOING STRONG...


SO WE WERE PLAYIN' THE HOSES ON THIS FACTORY, AND I'M ALL SET TO GO IN, WHEN A GUY TELLS ME, THAT FACTORY'S FULL OF NITRO-GLYCERINE!
CUT IT, WILKINS! SO YOU WERE A BIG, BRAVE FIREMAN BEFORE YOU JOINED UP!

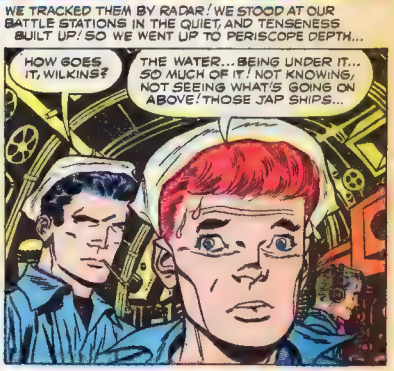
DOC, I WANT TO ASK YOU SOMETHING! THE FELLOWS CALL EACH OTHER BY FIRST NAMES OR NICKNAMES! HOW COME THEY CALL ME WILKINS, INSTEAD OF "RED"?
DON'T LET IT WORRY YOU, FELLOW!

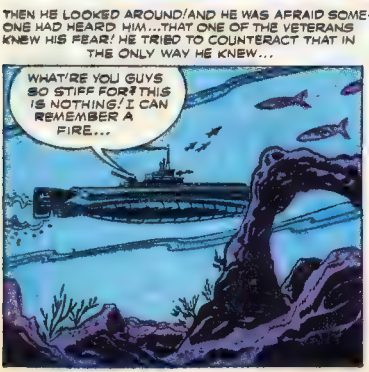


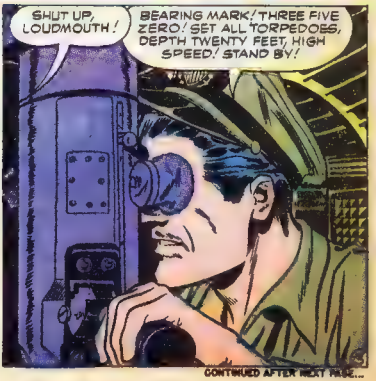

SAY, THIS SUBMARINE SERVICE IS A CINCH! FIRE FIGHTING NOW, THAT'S...
CUT IT, LOUDMOUTH! WE'D LIKE TO PLAY A LITTLE PEACEFUL POKER, IF YOU DON'T MIND!

HE'S TRYING TO BE ONE OF THEM BY SHOWING HE ISN'T AFRAID...BUT THEY WANT NO PART OF HIM! AND THAT'S THE BIG THING HE WANTS, TO BE ONE OF THEM!

IT WAS ON THE ELEVENTH DAY OUT THAT WE SIGHTED THE JAP BATTLEWAGONS AND PLANE CARRIER! BIG GAME!
NOW HEAR THIS! BATTLE STATIONS ON THE DOUBLE!


WE TRACKED THEM BY RADAR! WE STOOD AT OUR BATTLE STATIONS IN THE QUIET, AND TENSENESS BUILT UP! SO WE WENT UP TO PERISCOPE DEPTH...
HOW GOES IT, WILKINS?
THE WATER...BEING UNDER IT... SO MUCH OF IT! NOT KNOWING, NOT SEEING WHAT'S GOING ON ABOVE! THOSE JAP SHIPS...


THEN HE LOOKED AROUND! AND HE WAS AFRAID SOMEONE HAD HEARD HIM...THAT ONE OF THE VETERANS KNEW HIS FEAR! HE TRIED TO COUNTERACT THAT IN THE ONLY WAY HE KNEW...
WHAT'RE YOU GUYS SO STIFF FOR? THIS IS NOTHING! I CAN REMEMBER A FIRE...



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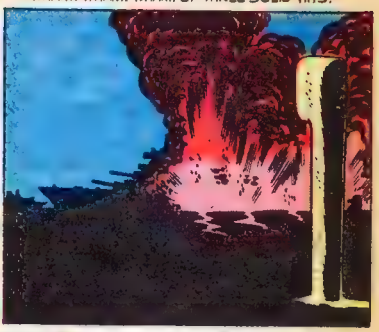
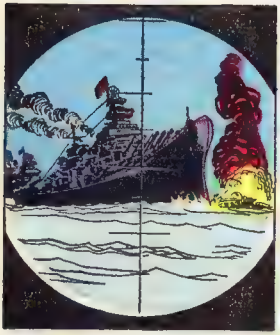
☐ I enclose payment. You stand charges.
☐ Send C.O.D., I will pay postal charges.

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____

I COULD FEEL THE JOLTS, AS THE TORPEDOES SMASHED OUT THE FORWARD TUBES! THEN THE WHAM! WHAM! WHAM! OF THREE SOLID HITS!

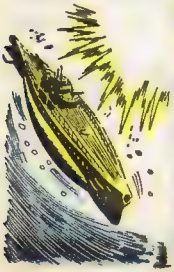


THE OTHER TWO JAP BATTLEWAGONS CAME FOR US!



THEY WERE OVER US THEN AND DROPPING DEPTH CHARGES! I BEGAN TO COUNT THEM, AS THEY POUNDED AT US, AND THE AIR INSIDE WAS FILLED WITH PARTICLES OF PAINT, CORK AND DUST...

SUDDENLY, THE "BONITA" LURCHED AND SHUDDERED! THE LIGHTS WENT OUT, THE DECK PLATES JUMPED, THE BULKHEADS SQUEEZED INWARD, THE WHOLE HULL RANG! WE WERE HIT HARD!



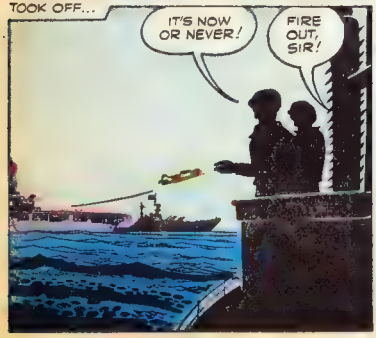
I COULD HEAR WILKINS SIGH WITH RELIEF! *FIRE! THIS* WAS SOMETHING HE KNEW ABOUT! HE RAN TOWARD THE ENGINE ROOM! SMOKE BILLOWED OUT...

WE SLIPPED THRU THE WATER, AS THE SMOKE AND HEAT GREW UNBEARABLE! WILKINS WAS WORKING FAST...

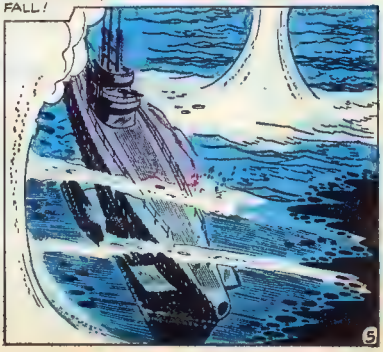
WE STAYED SUBMERGED UNTIL WE COULDN'T STAND IT ANY MORE! THEN WE SURFACED...

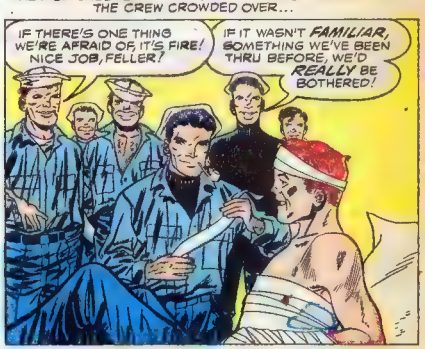
WE STAYED ON THE SURFACE...WE *HAD* TO, UNTIL THAT FIRE AND THE SMOKE WAS OUT! WE WATCHED THE CARRIER AND THE BATTLEWAGONS COME TOWARD US...

WE SAW THEM HEAVE TO! THEY HELD THEIR FIRE, AND WE SAW WHY! THEY HAD US COLD, SO THEY DECIDED TO GIVE THEIR AVIATORS A LITTLE FUN! THE PLANES TOOK OFF...

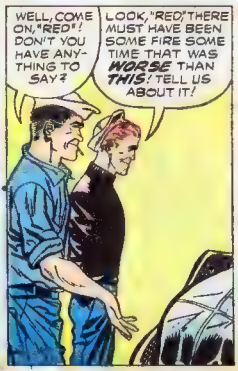


THE SKIPPER BELLOWED, "TAKE HER DOWN"! WE CRASH DIVED, JUST AS THE BOMBS BEGAN TO FALL!




THE MEN CHEERED! I WAS BUSY! WILKINS WAS INJURED! THE CREW CROWDED OVER...
IF THERE'S ONE THING WE'RE AFRAID OF, IT'S FIRE! NICE JOB, FELLER!
IF IT WASN'T FAMILIAR, SOMETHING WE'VE BEEN THRU BEFORE, WE'D REALLY BE BOTHERED!

FAMILIAR...SO YOU'RE NOT SCARED! YEAH... I'VE BEEN THRU IT NOW, TOO! I WON'T BE SCARED AGAIN!
WE NAMED THAT LAST TORP LOUDMOUTH! IT MADE LOTS OF NOISE, BUT IT SURE GOT THE JOB DONE!


WELL, COME ON, "RED"! DON'T YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY?
LOOK, "RED," THERE MUST HAVE BEEN SOME FIRE SOME TIME THAT WAS WORSE THAN THIS! TELL US ABOUT IT!

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CONVOY'S COURSE

ONCE more the German bombers were striking at London, in the autumn of 1942. Aboard the convoy ships were arms, fuel, bombs and planes to repel them. Five days before, the convoy had left Halifax under destroyer escort, steaming swiftly northward across the Atlantic toward the shelter of Scottish ports. There were no attacks until the fourth day out, when two subs surfaced, shelled the leading ship and then submerged. Deft maneuvering sidetracked torpedoes and the threat of depth-bomb patterns kept the subs far away. But everyone in the convoy knew that this was only the beginning. Scotland and safety were only three hundred miles away, but ahead of the convoy lurked, as always, the bigger wolf packs of U-boats.

Aboard Destroyer-escort 53, Commander Grayson paced the narrow bridge. As far as the eye could see convoy ships plowed eastward, low in the water, loaded to the marks.

A buzzer sounded on the bridge. Grayson stepped to the interdeck communicator and waited.

"Radio, sir," it came at last. "Had to break silence. British coastal blimps sighted two packs . . . small one right in our path and a bigger one northwest toward the Hebrides."

"Okay. Weather report." Grayson demanded, his face tightening.

"Cruiser Compac says clear all the way through," the radio man said. "Captain Haddell orders course kept dead ahead."

"Off," Grayson said and the communicator clicked. The commander turned to deck-lieutenant Raleigh. "Broke silence," he said. "That's bad, that's very bad."

The lieutenant nodded. Radio silence was strictly enforced on the North Atlantic convoy runs. The slightest beep might give the convoy's position away. To break it meant trouble. And trouble lurked ahead. A small sub wolf pack directly in their path. The lieutenant sighed. Captain Haddell of the cruiser had been right. Better to go through a small gauntlet of torpedoes than a bigger one northwest. He glanced at Commander Grayson, his face expressionless. Grayson, he knew, was an old-time commander. He'd started as a midshipman on the old Texas, in the days when naval ships weren't mechanized much, when electronic equipment hadn't even been heard of, when weather-reporting was primitive, when gun controls hadn't been machines but the crude rule of thumb and eye.

"I'd turn northwest," Grayson muttered, "if I were Compac."

Now Raleigh had all he could do to keep from smiling openly. The old codger! he thought. Trust an old salt to be contrary. Probably Grayson's idea of seeing which way the wind was blowing was to wet his finger and hold it up to the breeze.

"Well, I would," Grayson said doggedly. "Not that I don't trust the weather report . . . not much. Trouble is they're too scanty, since the new German air raids over England and Scotland. You've got to use your head when you don't have enough information."

"You don't think Captain Haddell is well-informed, sir?" Raleigh asked. He knew that a friendly-enmity of long standing existed between the Captain and the Commander.

Grayson said nothing. He was staring out the starboard bridge window. Then it happened. The sirens started blowing. The buzzer opened up again. Grayson stepped to the communicator.

"Radar room spotted aircraft, sir!" the radio man blurted.

Instantly Grayson bawled into the engine room tube: "Change course to dead circle!"

The destroyer responded instantly as the wheel man, overhearing, set his rudders north by northeast. Grayson, peering through binoculars, saw the sister destroyer 23 perform exactly the same maneuver. Behind, the cruiser fell into 53's path. The sirens aboard every ship rose to a deafening shriek.

The German bombers came in from the northeast at fifteen o'clock. There were three of them . . . all big, black two-engined Heinkels, with crowded bomb racks jutting from beneath their bellies. They ignored the convoy ships, though they'd have to pass

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT STORY...

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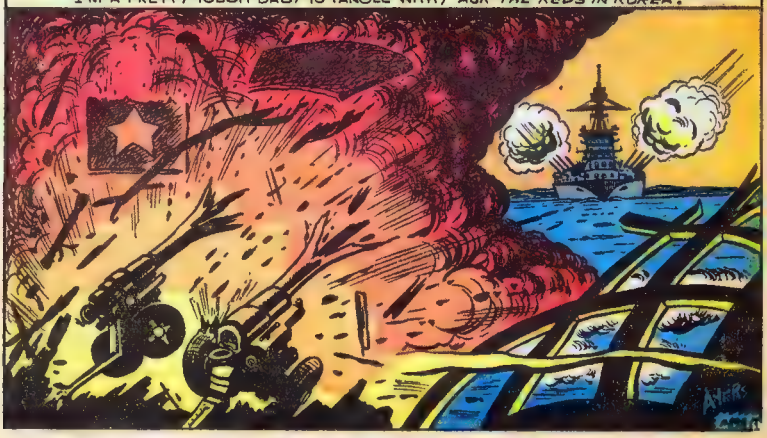
*WHAT'S ME THOSE GYRENES ARE SOUNDING OFF ABOUT! I'VE GOT 2,700 NAVY SWEETHEARTS, BUT THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM IN MY HEART FOR A *MARINE DETACHMENT!* THERE ALWAYS HAS BEEN, EVER SINCE THIS 887-FEET AND 5-INCHES OF ME WAS BORN IN THE PHILADELPHIA NAVY YARD EXACTLY A YEAR AFTER PEARL HARBOR! MAY 25, 1943 I GOT A BANG ON MY BOW WITH A CHAMPAGNE BOTTLE THAT CHRISTENED ME WITH THE LEGAL AND OFFICIAL NAME OF...

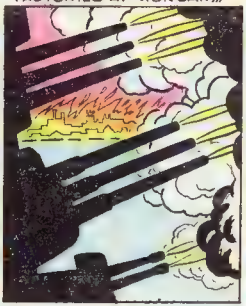
THE U.S.S. NEW JERSEY

I'VE BEEN AROUND A LOT, TOO... AND I'VE GOT NINE BATTLE STARS ON MY ASIATIC-PACIFIC AREA SERVICE RIBBON AND A PURPLE HEART TO PROVE IT! AND IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE THAT I'M A PRETTY TOUGH BABY TO TANGLE WITH, *ASK THE REDS IN KOREA!*



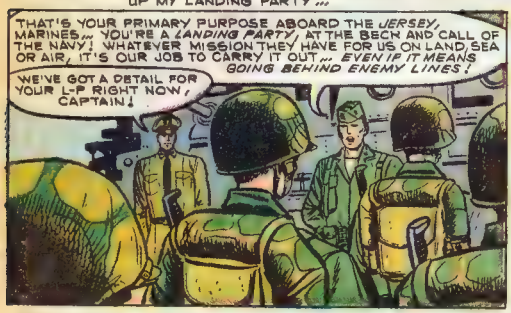
WHEN THE MARINES WERE LIFTED OUT OF HUNGNAM, I WAS THERE HELPING TO KEEP THE *MIGS* AWAY WITH MY TWENTY 5-INCH ACK-ACK GUNS ...

MY NINE 16-INCH BOOMERS WALLOPED DOCKS AND FACTORIES AT WONSAN ...



AND UP CHONGJIN WAY, MY 16-INCHERS CLOBBERED RED BUNKERS ...

BESIDES MY CREW OF 2,700 NAVY GUYS IN KOREA, I HAD A *MARINE DETACHMENT* OF 200 GYRENES ABOARD THAT MADE UP MY LANDING PARTY ...

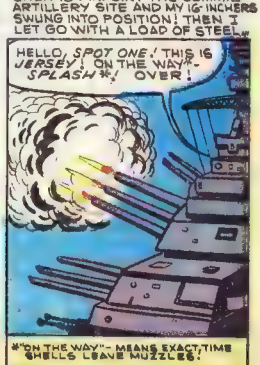

THAT'S YOUR PRIMARY PURPOSE ABOARD THE *JERSEY*, MARINES ... YOU'RE A *LANDING PARTY*, AT THE BECK AND CALL OF THE NAVY! WHATEVER MISSION THEY HAVE FOR US ON LAND, SEA OR AIR, IT'S OUR JOB TO CARRY IT OUT ... *EVEN IF IT MEANS GOING BEHIND ENEMY LINES!*
WE'VE GOT A DETAIL FOR YOUR L-P RIGHT NOW, CAPTAIN!

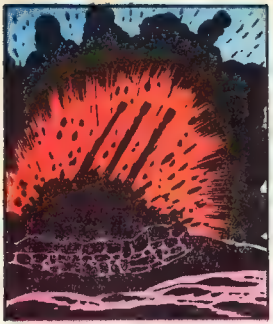
THE FOOT GYRENES ON SHORE ARE HAVING A SLOW TIME GETTING THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS BECAUSE OF RED ARTILLERY! IF YOUR MEN WILL GO ASHORE AND SPOT THE GUNS FOR US, THE *JERSEY* WILL ERASE THEM!
WE'RE ON OUR WAY, SIR!

QUICKER THAN YOU CAN SAY *SEMPER FIDELIS*, A MOTOR LAUNCH WAS ON ITS WAY TOWARD SHORE THROUGH MINED WATERS ...

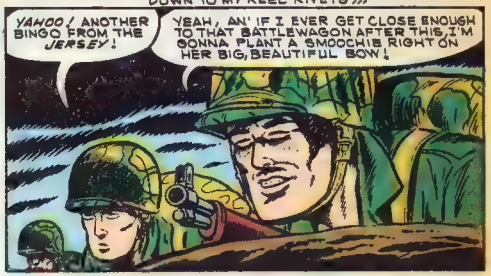
ON THE MAINLAND OF KOREA, AS SOON AS THE L-P SPOTTED THE RED ARTILLERY FLASHES, THEY RELAYED THE INFORMATION TO ME ...

AZIMUTH AND CO-ORDINATES WERE GIVEN TO PINPOINT THE COMMIE ARTILLERY SITE AND MY 16-INCHERS SWUNG INTO POSITION! THEN I LET GO WITH A LOAD OF STEEL ...

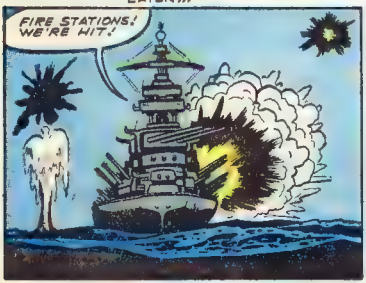

HELLO, *SPOT ONE*! THIS IS *JERSEY*! ON THE WAY*- *SPLASH*! OVER!
*"ON THE WAY"- MEANS EXACT TIME SHELLS LEAVE MUZZLES!
*"SPLASH"- TIME SHELLS SHOULD BE EXPLODING!



I COULDN'T SEE WHAT MY GUNS WERE HITTING IN THE MOUNTAINS, BUT I COULD HEAR THE FOOT MARINES CHEERING, AND I KNEW I WAS DOING OKAY! THOSE CHEERS MADE ME PROUD RIGHT DOWN TO MY KEEL RIVETS ...


YAHOO! ANOTHER BINGO FROM THE JERSEY!
YEAH, AN' IF I EVER GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO THAT BATTLEWAGON AFTER THIS, I'M GONNA PLANT A SMOOCHIE RIGHT ON HER BIG, BEAUTIFUL BOW!

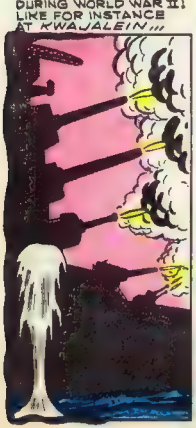
THAT GYRENE'S KISS I LOOKED FORWARD TO, BUT NOT THE SMACKEROO I GOT A FEW MINUTES LATER ...



THAT'S HOW I GOT MY PURPLE HEART, AND IF IT WASN'T FOR THOSE HARD-WORKING, WONDERFUL NAVY "HOT PAPAS"*! I WOULD HAVE REALLY BEEN IN TROUBLE ...

* NAVY ASBESTOS-GARBED FIRE FIGHTERS!

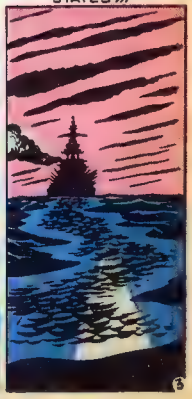
THAT HIT MADE ME RECALL THAT I'D HAD PLENTY OF CLOSE CALLS IN THE PACIFIC DURING WORLD WAR II! LIKE FOR INSTANCE AT KWAJALEIN ...



AT ROI ...

AT NAMUR ...

BUT NOTHING LIKE THAT CLOBBER I GOT IN KOREA, BECAUSE THAT ONE SENT ME LIMPING BACK HOME TO THE STATES ...



I WAS LAID UP AT PORTSMOUTH FOR REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS, AND WHEN I GOT SHIPSHAPE, I WAS RARING TO DO 30-KNOTS BACK TO KOREA! BUT BEFORE I EVEN RAISED MY ANCHOR, THE WAR WAS OVER ...

SO I WAS TAKEN TO NORFOLK TO TAKE ON STORES, AMMO AND A NEW *MARINE DETACHMENT*! MOTOR LAUNCHES SWARMED AROUND ME LIKE SARDINES, AND GYRENES CAME CLIMBING UP MY SIDES ON ROPE NETS ...

SO IT'S THE CARIBBEAN FOR A SHAKEDOWN CRUISE FOR THE OL' SEAHORSE! WHEN WILL YOUR NEW MARINE DETACHMENT BE READY TO COME ABOARD, CAPTAIN?

THEY'LL BE IN NORFOLK FROM BOOT CAMP NEXT WEEK, SIR!

WELCOME ABOARD THE *U.S.S. NEW JERSEY*, GYRENES! YOU'RE GUESTS OF THE *NAVY* ON THIS CRUISE!

ALL MY NAVY AND MARINE FRIENDS BROKE OUT IN THE UNIFORM OF THE DAY TO RECEIVE AND RETURN HONORS FROM OTHER GOBS AND GYRENES ABOARD MY SISTER SHIP I PASSED AS I HEADED OUT TO SEA...

THEN, WHEN I GOT OUT INTO THE WIDE OPEN SEA-SPACES, THE FANCY DUDS WENT BACK INTO THE LOCKERS AND ALL NAVY HANDS HEAVED TO WITH BROOMS, SWABS, HOLYSTONES AND HOSES TO WASH MY FACE...

HEY, MARINE! WHAT'RE YOU DOING WITH THAT SWAB?

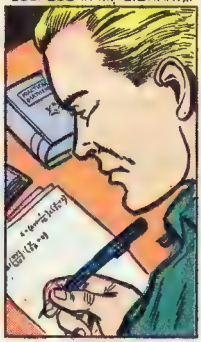
HELPIN' THE SAILORS CLEAN THE DECK, SERGEANT!

MARINES DON'T SCRUB DECKS! LIKE THE NAVY CHIEF SAID WHEN WE CAME ABOARD ... WE'RE *GUESTS* ON THIS CRUISE!

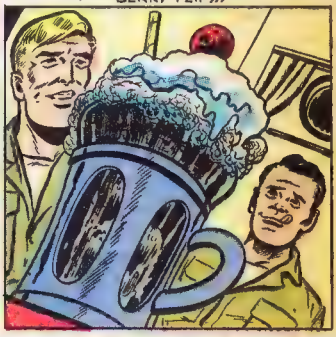
THE GYRENES DIDN'T HAVE TO SWAB MY DECKS, BUT THEY WEREN'T ABOARD ME JUST FOR THE RIDE EITHER! THERE WAS PLENTY FOR THE *MARINE DETACHMENT* TO DO ON THE CRUISE! THE LEATHERNECKS WEREN'T EXEMPT FROM THE LAUNDRY DETAIL OR FROM SHAVING SPUDS! AND THEY HAD TO LEARN HOW TO MAN THE RADAR GEAR AND HOW TO FIRE MY 40-MM QUADS AND THE FIVE-INCH GUNS ...

BUT THERE WAS ALSO TIME FOR OTHER THINGS, LIKE MOVIES ON MY DECKS ...

OR FOR BONING UP ON *MCI* COURSES IN MY LIBRARY...



OR FOR SHOOTING THE BREEZE AT MY STAND OVER A CHOCOLATE MALTED OR A STRAWBERRY FLIP...



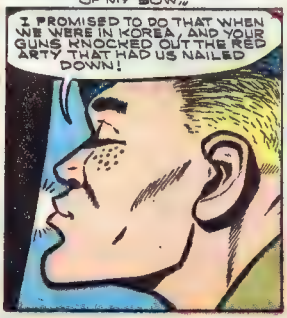
MY GOBS AND GYRENES WERE *SEMPER FIDELIS* TO ME, EXCEPT WHEN WE HIT PORT! THEN THEY ALL DESERTED ME FOR...

BUT I WASN'T JEALOUS! I WAS GLAD THEY ALL GOT THE CHANCE TO SEE PLACES LIKE PORT AU PRINCE, HAITI ...

AND GUANTANAMO CITY, CUBA...

AND WHEN THE CRUISE WAS OVER AND MY TWO HUNDRED MARINE GUESTS LEFT ME AT NORFOLK, I FELT LIKE BAWLING...

A FEW DAYS LATER, ANOTHER *MARINE DETACHMENT* CAME ABOARD, AND ONE OF THEM KISSED ME RIGHT ON THE TIP OF MY BOW...



THAT'S JUST ONE OF THE MANY REASONS I LOVE ALL GOBS AND GYRENES... AND WHY I'M HAPPY AND PROUD TO BE A BATTLESHIP NAMED *THE U.S.S. NEW JERSEY*!

THE END

ATLAS FOR THE BEST IN WAR TALES LOOK FOR THE ATLAS SEAL ON THE COVER! ATLAS

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...CONTINUED

over them. What they were after was the cruiser and the two destroyer escorts. By destroying the escorting ships, they'd soften up the convoy for the submarine wolf pack waiting further east.

Grayson barked orders from the bridge. The bombers were still far out of range and all the escorts could do was circle the convoy in deploy formation like sheepdogs rounding a herd of sheep.

Now the convoy freighters began firing. Pom-Poms and Bofors guns erupted from fore and aft in a veritable hurricane of steel. Suddenly the forward bomber staggered, its port engine exploding in a gushing fountain of light. Immediately the pilot sent the craft into a long, low glide, cutting the starboard engine. Quickly every bomb was jettisoned. They fell into the sea without exploding.

The other two came on, as the other settled into the sea.

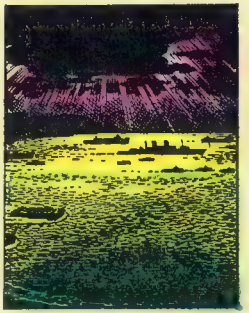
Parachute Air Cables went up, blossomed in mid-air in the path of the two advancing aircraft and slowly descended, ready to tangle wings or propellers. But the German pilots deftly maneuvered through them. Beneath, escort 23 dashed to one side and out of the way. Grayson, binoculars fixed on the sister ship's course, breathed a sigh of relief that was instantly quenched. Tall, majestic, all her guns firing, the cruiser swam into view. The Heinkels had almost finished their bomb run. There would be no second chance, not with over six hundred guns of all calibers firing constantly at them. They turned slightly in a swift bank and dove straight for the cruiser whose decks were erupting like a volcano.

Grayson's binoculars swerved only once, to note boats being lowered from a TNT freighter to pick up the crew of the downed Heinkel, struggling in the water. The next instant they were focused on the cruiser. He knew there could be no escape... everything would depend on Haddell's skill in maneuvering.

From the bellies of the Heinkels fell, abruptly, full bomb loads. Stick after stick dropped toward the cruiser. Its nose jerked frantically to one side as every ounce of power was crowded on.

"They've missed!" Raleigh cried suddenly.

"They haven't . . . not quite!" Grayson said.



Behind the cruiser, barely a dozen feet from her stern, the full complement of bombs fell and exploded in one mighty roar. A wall of water rose up behind the stricken craft and overwhelmed the stern.

Five tense minutes passed, with the Heinkels, now defenseless, tearing off back east, where they disappeared. A moment later, the communicator buzzed. "Message order coming up, sir," the radio room reported.

Raleigh seized the type message when the orderly brought it, handed it to Grayson, who read it aloud: "NO LIVES LOST: STEERING GONE . . . TAKE TWENTY HOURS FOR REPAIR: ESCORT 23 STAYS WITH ME: TAKE OVER, YOU OLD SEA-DOG, YOU'RE IN COMMAND NOW: SIGNED . . . HADDELL!"

"They're okay," Raleigh muttered. "Or they will be in twenty hours. But what about the convoy? We're heading into a sub wolf pack, and only 53 to protect the lot. We can't do it, sir!"

"We're not going to," Grayson said. He stepped to the communicator. "Flash order to the convoy. Grayson - Compac taking over. *Change course northwest!*"

Raleigh stared at him, dumbfounded.

"But . . . but sir!" he protested. "There's an even larger pack of subs waiting to the northwest. The weather's clear . . . you had the reports. We'd be sitting ducks!"

"The weather won't stay clear!" Grayson said grimly. "I know!"

Raleigh watched the convoy change course slowly, heading northwest. *If* the weather would change; if the North Atlantic fogs would only start rolling in, the convoy would be safe from the subs, for the ports of safety were only three hundred miles away. He remained, with Grayson, staring at the far horizon, hoping for fog or snow.

An hour later, the skies clouded. Then it began to snow. The convoy was saved. Raleigh turned in amazement to Grayson.

"How did you know, sir? How could you tell it would snow?"

Commander Grayson smiled. "Because I'm an old sea-dog. But more thaan that, because I'm a New Englander, too. Where *I* come from, Mr. Raleigh, you grow up learning to smell snow twenty-four hours *before* it starts to fall!"

THE END 0-59

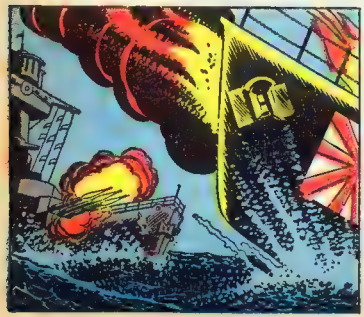
SHE WAS BIG AND SHE WAS STRONG! SHE HAD COURAGE AND PRIDE! SHE COULD BE AS TENDER AS A LOVING MOTHER FOR THOSE IN HER CARE, AND AS ANGRY AS A THOUSAND ROARING LIONS WHEN SHE WAS AROUSED!

DREADNOUGHT!

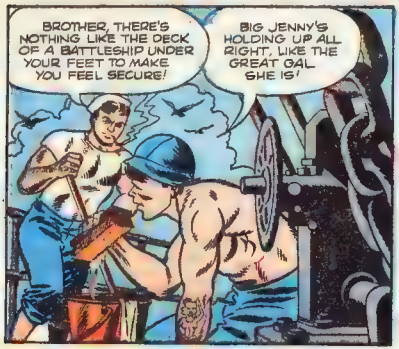
"DEAR DARLING PEGGY, YOU KNOW HOW I FEEL ABOUT YOU, AND I'M FIGHTING THIS WAR, SO WE CAN GET MARRIED AND LIVE IN A WORLD OF PEACE! WELL, IF YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY ABOUT ME, THEN YOU'LL UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M GOING TO TELL YOU! IT'S ABOUT ANOTHER GAL! I HOPE I CAN MAKE YOU UNDERSTAND, SO HERE GOES...
ABEL

"I WISH YOU COULD SEE HER AS I DO, PEGGY.. BIG AND MAGNIFICENT, WITH THE TRIMMEST LINES! I'M MIGHTY PROUD OF ALL THE THINGS SHE CAN DO..."

"BUT I'M NOT THE ONLY MAN IN HER LIFE! I'VE GOT 1500 RIVALS, READY TO CATER TO HER EVERY NEED! AND WE ALL TRY TO BEAT EACH OTHER IN TREATING HER LIKE THE WONDERFUL GAL SHE IS!"

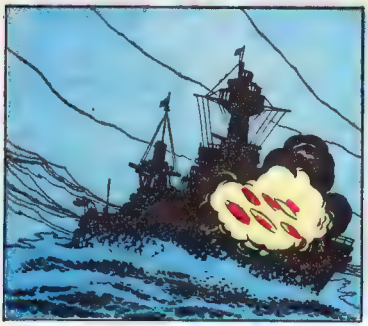


"AND DO YOU KNOW WHY WE CARE FOR HER AS WE DO? BECAUSE SHE TAKES CARE OF US! WE OWE HER EVERYTHING."

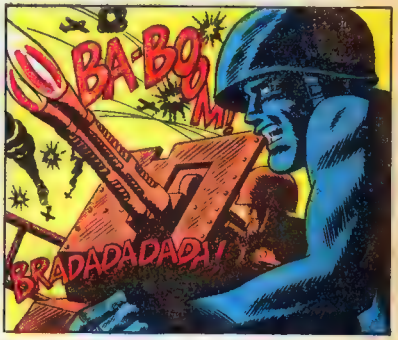

BROTHER, THERE'S NOTHING LIKE THE DECK OF A BATTLESHIP UNDER YOUR FEET TO MAKE YOU FEEL SECURE!
BIG JENNY'S HOLDING UP ALL RIGHT, LIKE THE GREAT GAL SHE IS!

"I CAN'T GIVE YOU THE DETAILS OF WHAT HAPPENED THAT DAY, BUT IT DID HAPPEN IN THE PACIFIC, AND WE WERE PART OF THE FLEET STOPPING THE JAPANESE FROM PUSHING TOO FAR ACROSS THE SEA..."

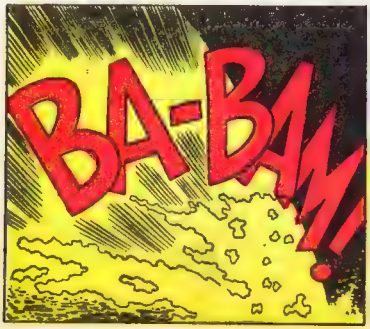
"FROM THE BRIDGE TO THE ENGINE ROOM, WE WERE ALL PART OF THE TEAM, EACH ONE HELPING OUR GAL DO THE JOB SHE WAS SUPPOSED TO DO! AND SHE DID IT!"

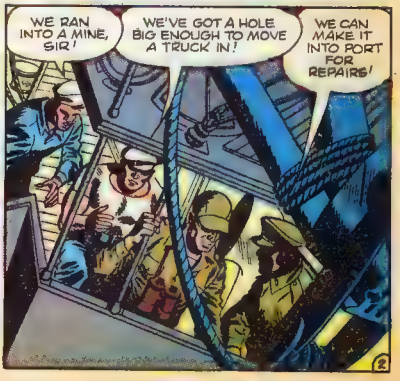


"SHE DID MORE THAN HER SHARE, TOO! THERE WERE A LOT OF OTHER GALS IN THAT FRACAS, BUT BIG JENNY LED THE PACK OF THEM IN THIS BEAUTY PARADE!"



"WE DROVE THE ENEMY OFF, AFTER THEY SUFFERED HEAVY LOSSES, AND WE WERE HEADING FOR ANOTHER RENDEZVOUS WHEN IT HAPPENED..."





"FUNNIEST THING, PEGGY...WHEN BIG JENNY WAS HIT, WE DIDN'T WORRY ABOUT OURSELVES, BUT ABOUT HER..."

IT'S AS IF SOMEBODY HUMAN WAS WOUNDED!

IT *IS* SOMEBODY HUMAN! IT'S BIG JENNY!

SIR, OUR GUNS AND EQUIPMENT ARE STILL INTACT, BUT SHE'S TAKING A LOT OF WATER! WE'VE RADIOED FOR HELP AND ESCORT, BUT IT'S NOT LIKELY IT'LL GET TO US IN TIME TO HELP!

THEN WE'LL GO AHEAD UNDER OUR OWN STEAM, AS LONG AS WE CAN KEEP AFLOAT!

"SO BIG JENNY, CRIPPLED NOW AND HELPLESS, CARRIED ON LIKE THE TERRIFIC GAL SHE WAS..."

THINK SHE'LL MAKE IT?

LEAVE IT TO BIG JENNY! SHE'LL GET US SAFELY INTO A PORT!

"HOW STRONG CAN FAITH BE? HERE WE WERE TILTING AS OUR BIG SHIP MOVED SLOWLY THROUGH THE MIGHTY WAVES OF THE PACIFIC! EVERY MAN WAS TENSE, EVERY HEART BEAT A LITTLE FASTER, AS BIG JENNY STRUGGLED WITH EVERY OUNCE OF HER GREAT RESOURCES TO BRING US THROUGH..."

"HOURS PASSED! WE COULD CAPSIZE ANY MINUTE, BUT STILL WE KEPT GOING! AND THEN..."

RADAR REPORTS PLANES APPROACHING, SIR! CAN'T TELL YET IF THEY'RE FRIENDLY OR ENEMY!

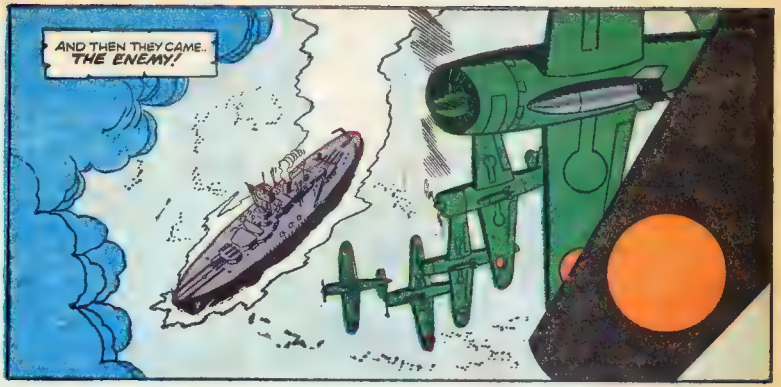
AND WE'RE STILL A LONG WAY FROM HOME!

"WE'RE NOT SOFTIES IN THIS NAVY! GIVE US A FIGHTING CHANCE AND WE'RE NOT AFRAID OF ANYTHING! BUT WE KNEW ONE THING...AND WE KNEW IT WELL..."

IF IT'S THE ENEMY, WE'RE FINISHED!

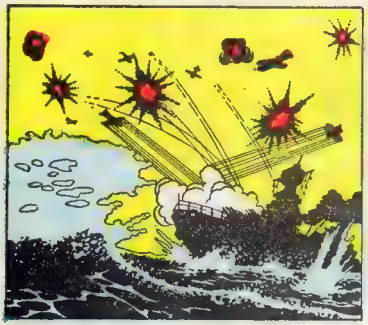
... you see, Peg, a Dread-nought is a big ship! She's built for power and force. She can never maneuver and move to elude a pack of fighter planes. She has to depend on her escort for that, while she does the heavy damaging. At full steam she's vulnerable to attack, so what was she now when she was crippled?

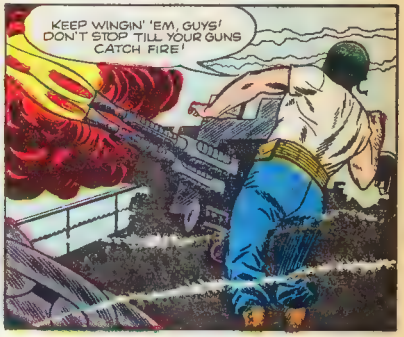
BATTLE STATIONS! WE'LL FIGHT THIS OUT, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS!



"WE MUST HAVE LOOKED LIKE A GREAT BIG SITTING DUCK TO THEM, FLOUNDERING AROUND AS WE WERE, AND THEY CAME AT US, SCREECHING DOWNWARD WITH GUNS WIDE OPEN!"

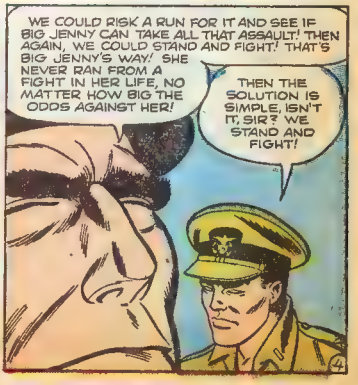
"OF COURSE, WE DIDN'T JUST LAY THERE AND TAKE IT! OUR ANTI-AIRCRAFT SET A PATTERN ACROSS THE SKIES, BUT OF COURSE THAT DIDN'T STOP THEM!"





"AND WE KNEW THIS WAS A LOSING BATTLE..."

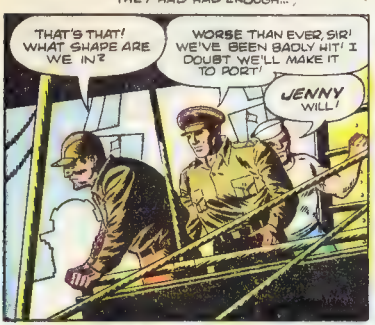
BIG JENNY'S DONE PLENTY FOR US, BUT SHE CAN'T DO ANY MORE! SHE'S GONE AS FAR AS SHE COULD! THERE IS A WAY, THOUGH... AND IT'S ONE IN A MILLION...

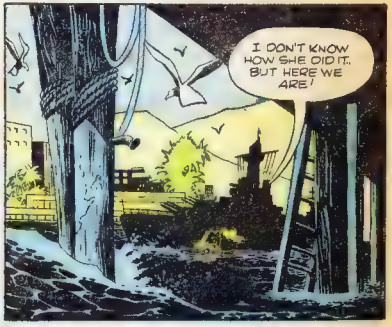

WE COULD RISK A RUN FOR IT AND SEE IF BIG JENNY CAN TAKE ALL THAT ASSAULT! THEN AGAIN, WE COULD STAND AND FIGHT! THAT'S BIG JENNY'S WAY! SHE NEVER RAN FROM A FIGHT IN HER LIFE, NO MATTER HOW BIG THE ODDS AGAINST HER!
THEN THE SOLUTION IS SIMPLE, ISN'T IT, SIR? WE STAND AND FIGHT!

ALL RIGHT! RIGHT NOW. THE ENEMY'S APPROACHING FROM ONE SIDE! WE'LL GIVE HIM A BROADSIDE WITH ALL OUR MAIN GUNS ON THAT SIDE!
A BROADSIDE, SIR?
WILL SHE STAND UP? SHE COULD COLLAPSE UNDER THE STRAIN OF THE TOTAL RECOIL!
LIEUTENANT, IF WE'RE TO FIGHT, IT'S THE ONLY WAY WE CAN! OPEN FIRE!
FIRE!
"A BROADSIDE IS AN IMPOSING SIGHT, PEGGY! THE WHOLE ARRAY OF HEAVY GUNS TO ONE SIDE OF A DREADNOUGHT ROAR OUT AT ONCE, AND FLAMES, SMOKE AND DESTRUCTION TAKE OVER..."
BARA-BOOM!
SHE'S HEAVING AND CREAKING AT THE SEAMS!
THINK SHE'LL HOLD UP?
SURE! SHE CAN'T LET US DOWN NOW!
"THE BROADSIDE DID WHAT IT WAS SUPPOSED TO DO! ENEMY PLANES FLAMED DOWN FROM THE SKIES LIKE FALLING ROCKETS!"
SHE'S STRAIGHTENING UP AGAIN! WE'RE NOT SINKING YET!
PLANES COMING FROM OTHER SIDE! READY GUNS!
FIRE!

"THAT DID IT! IT WAS A MIRACLE, PEGGY, AND YET NO MORE THAN WE EXPECTED FROM BIG JENNY! THE PLANES WE DIDN'T HIT, GOT OUT OF THERE FAST! THEY HAD HAD ENOUGH..."

"AND SHE DID! CHUGGING, PUFFING AND GROANING, EVERY LAST MEASURE OF HER STRENGTH GONE, BIG JENNY STILL CARRIED US INTO PORT."





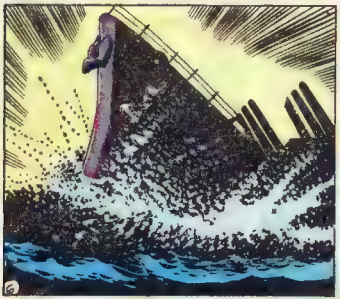
"WE WERE SURE GLAD TO BE BACK ON GOOD OLD TERRA FIRMA ONCE MORE, MUCH AS WE LOVED BIG JENNY!"

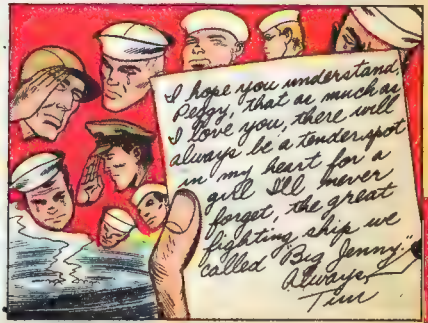
"AND THEN, AS THE LAST MAN STEPPED OUT ONTO THE DOCK, I STOPPED..."

"IT WAS TRUE! OUT OF HER DEPTHS CAME THE DEEP SOUND OF A SIGH! WE ALL HEARD IT THEN, AND STOPPED IN OUR TRACKS..."

"IT WAS THE LAST SOUND BIG JENNY EVER MADE! AS IF HER TASK WAS OVER, AS IF SHE HAD ACCOMPLISHED THE JOB OF BRINGING HER BOYS SAFELY HOME TO PORT, BIG JENNY HEAVED AND SANK..."

"THERE WASN'T A DRY EYE AMONG THOSE SHE LEFT BEHIND, AS WE ALL SALUTED THE GREAT DREADNOUGHT THAT NEVER, EVEN TO HER LAST BREATH, LET DOWN HER CREW..."




I hope you understand, Peggy, that as much as I love you, there will always be a tender spot in my heart for a girl I'll never forget, the great fighting ship we called Big Jenny.
Always, Tim
THE END

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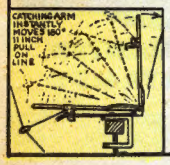

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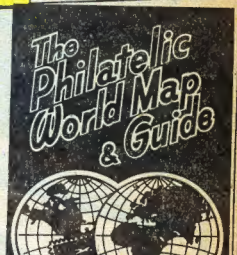

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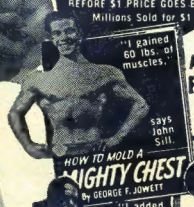

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3

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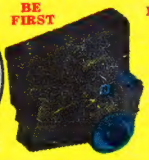

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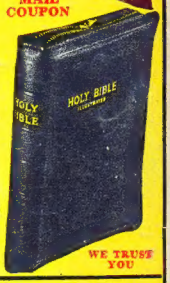

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